

S/N Parent: 09/045,213

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Douglas W. Kohrs      Examiner:      Parent: B. Snow  
Serial No.: Parent: 09/045,213      Group Art Unit:      Parent: 3738  
Filed: February 6, 2001      Docket No.: 6683.26USC1  
Title: INTERVERTEBRAL IMPLANT WITH REDUCED CONTACT AREA  
AND METHOD

---

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EL674896970US

Date of Deposit: February 6, 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:   
Name: Brian Mahan

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment and Remarks before examination of the above-identified patent application.

In the Specification

At page 1, after the Title, please insert the following:

--Cross-Reference to Related Applications

The present application is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/045,213 filed March 20, 1998, which application is incorporated herein by reference.--

Remarks

The present application is a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) of U.S. Serial No. 09/045,213, filed March 20, 1998, for which a Notice of Allowance was mailed on November 7, 2000. The herein requested amendment to the Specification reflects this status. Applicants will be filing a Supplemental Preliminary Amendment directed to the claims of the presently filed application within 8-12 weeks. If the Examiner takes the case up prior to that time, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 336-4712

James R. Chiapetta  
Reg. No. 39,634

DATE: 02/06/01